

LPCA Meeting Minutes  
12/12/12

Elliott called the meeting to order at 7:30. He announced the Christmas Party this Friday and encouraged everyone to attend and bring the kids. Reports were presented by: Police Liaison; VDOT on the Route 50 Court House project; Arlington County on Route 50/Irving St. Intersection Project; Building Committee Chair on LPCH Renovation; and Fund Raising Committee Chair on LPCH fundraising.

- Police Liaison report by Officer St. John on cautions to follow for the holidays
  - UPS trucks are followed and theft of packages is common so arrange for packages to be delivered to or picked up by a neighbor.
  - Unlocked doors are the most common cause of theft from both houses and cars
  - Leaving packaging for expensive items on the curb invites theft
  - If you are traveling, lock windows, doors, leave lights on and tell a neighbor you will be away so they can report unusually activity, pickup mail, packages, etc.
  - When shopping go with a friend for safety. Reports of theft at malls especially of purses, credit cards and gift cards.
  - Be wary of any unsolicited phone calls you receive. For example, thieves are picking up registration cards from store drawings, contacting individuals and telling them they won the drawing. They then ask for a processing fee.
  - Photograph new items and record their serial numbers.
  - TARP (traffic accident reduction program) is being implemented at dangerous intersections along Glebe, Washington Blvd and other areas. Officers are ticketing heavily at key intersections.
  - The First District Crime report was discussed. Lyon Park resident Samantha Sewell said she already has access to it and will forward it to the list serve for us.
  
- VDOT report on Route 50 Court House Project by Charles Melvin Harvey, P.E.
  - Notice to proceed on the contract was issued in summer of 2011 although work did not begin for several months.
  - VDOT is trying to improve progress and limit impact to the neighborhood from the construction. In June, 2011 a meeting was held for neighborhood comment with about 25 people attending. The 10<sup>th</sup> street bridge was originally scheduled for four months demolition and the job was completed by a subcontractor in 36 hours after an alternative plan from the contractor was approved by VDOT
  - Completion is scheduled for November 30, 2013 but will probably not be completed by then. Unofficially the estimate is summer of 2014.
  - Unless extensions are given for various circumstances such as delays caused by VDOT delays, the discovery of unexploded ordinance in the median which had to be removed and other unforeseen conditions the contractor pays a late penalty of \$4,100 a day. Since contractor profit is only about 8% that eats into profits quickly.

- Q&A session
  - Q: Why would they get an extension if they started late and don't work every day. Shouldn't the contractor be held liable? What tools does VDOT have to make them meet the deadline?  
A: If they are more than 10% behind schedule a percentage of monthly payment is withheld. Liquidated damages are also used to assure completion on schedule.
  - Q: What can be done about the major impact of detours on the neighborhoods? Is VDOT responsible once cars leave Route 50?  
A: VDOT coordinated with the county, presented options and tries to respond to neighborhood concerns. For example night work was curtailed due to complaints from residents but this results in delays and closures during the day to allow contractor to work.
  - Q: Can VDOT add signage on Pershing exit to alert drivers to speed limit of 25 mph. Currently there are no signs upon entering Pershing from Route 50.  
A: That is county road and we can't do that.
  - Q: A left turn light at Pershing and Washington Blvd is needed because of increased traffic due to construction.  
A: That is a county road and a county issue.
  - Mr. Harvey pointed out they did remove detour signs as requested by members of the community but drivers still will know the best routes to take thru the neighborhoods. It was pointed out that the removal of the signs did help reduce traffic. Other comments and suggestions included installing a light at Barton and Pershing, ending detours on Pershing and opening 10<sup>th</sup> St exit ramp. It was noted that VDOT listened to community concerns with regard to trees and made changes to the VDOT tree plan.
  - Elliot interjected that we can't address all of the concerns tonight and it sounds like we need to invite Arlington County to discuss these issues. He suggested our traffic coordinator, Christa Abbott, collect questions from everyone so we can have a dialogue with VDOT and the County.
- Route 50 and Irving Intersection Project report by Ramzi Awwad, Design supervisor and Jeremy Watson the Project Manager
  - County received grants to improve Route 50 intersection for bicycle and pedestrian safety.
  - Improvements include new sidewalks on corners with ADA compliant access ramps, realignment of push buttons and signals with new configuration and north bound traffic on Irving will be able to turn right on red.
  - Drainage will be improved to eliminate standing water in the area.

- Signals will be timed to allow adequate time to cross if crossing button is pushed.
- West bound bus stop will be moved from its current location to the west side of Irving. The east bound stop will have improvements added at the bus stop.
- Construction will begin in the summer of 2013 and will take about 3 or 4 months.
  
- Renovation Project Report by Ken Bell, Chair of Building Committee
  - Drawings have been submitted and the county has issued us a Project #.
  - RFP is drafted and will probably go to the board tomorrow for action to include legal review of the RFP and AIA contract vehicle to be used with modifications.
  - There is a draft of RFP evaluation criteria completed.
  - A preliminary list of nine contractors has been identified which will probably be reduced to about 5 who will receive RFP.
  - An onsite meeting for contractors will be held and contractors will have 30 days to submit proposals and bids.
  - The review process with the county may take as much as 3-4 months so the estimate is the earliest time construction could begin in summer of 2013. Start date is contingent on funding and at the discretion of the Board of Governors.
  - Bill Anhut said we have a construction loan that has been approved and we can start whenever the board wants to begin by borrowing against a construction loan but we still will need to raise the funds to pay off the loan.
  
- Renovation Fund Raising Report by Samantha Sewell, Chair of Fund Raising Committee
  - Samantha recently took over as chair of renovation fund raising. She is new to Lyon Park and has been looking for opportunities to volunteer in the community. She has a background in fund raising and currently works for a non-profit.
  - The initial fund raising meeting has been held and a plan created.
  - Her top priorities over the next few months are
    - Assessing our sources of revenue in order to strengthen certain areas of our fundraising plan (i.e. what has historically brought in more money? events, major gifts, etc.).
    - Bringing on new folks to increase our people power on the fundraising committee.
    - Engaging families who have lived in Lyon Park for 3 years or less by showcasing stories from families who have lived here 15+ years and hosting a new neighbors social.

Meeting Adjourned